

**METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PROVIDING
A BALLISTIC MAGNETORESISTIVE SENSOR IN
A CURRENT PERPENDICULAR-TO-PLANE MODE**

ABSTRACT

5 A method and apparatus for providing a ballistic magnetoresistive sensor in a
current perpendicular-to-plane mode is disclosed. A nickel nano-contact is provided in a
current perpendicular-to-plane sensor. The nano-contact switches its magnetization with
the switching of the free layer to provide an increase in resistance that is used to detect
magnetically recorded data.

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